

--- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:56 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: Bob Morgan <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com

Cc: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org, Meredith Anderson/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 11/01/2010 04:26 PM

Subject: Birmingham City Schools -- Invitation for VIP Briefing, Wed. Nov. 3, 10 am, Harriman Park Rec. Center, N. Birmingham

**Bob Morgan and Samuella Drew
City of Birmingham Schools:**

Hello. EPA and its participating agencies and Walter Coke, Inc. would like to invite you, as representing the Birmingham School District, to a meeting of public officials to be held at the Harriman Park Recreation Center this coming Wednesday, Nov. 3rd at 10 am to discuss the community soil sampling results. There will be likely questions from local political officials (see below e-mail) about the 4 localized school soil sampling results (refer to EPA letter dated 10/1/10, see below attachment). We believe it may be a very good idea for the School District to be present at this briefing and question/answer session.

As shared last week, the main reason EPA will be in Birmingham this week from Wednesday to Friday, is to conduct private one-on-one information sessions with about 65 residents whose yards were sampled. Refer to table below:

Date	Times	Location of Information Sessions: To Discuss Private Individual Sampling Results	Address in North Birmingham/Phone #

Wednesday, November 3	2 pm – 6 pm	Harriman Park Neighborhood: Harriman Park Recreation Center	4347 F.L. Shuttlesworth Drive; 205-841-6939
Thursday, November 4	10 am – 12 2 pm – 6 pm	Collegeville Neighborhood: Trinity CME Church	3013 F.L. Shuttlesworth Dr; 205- 849-7641
Friday, November 5	10 am - 12	Fairmont Neighborhood: Northside Church of God	2873 41st Ave; 205- 849-7676

I just left both of you a voice mail on this subject about your potential participation in this special VIP meeting at 10 am at the Harriman Park Recreation Center. Again, I am sorry for this late notice. I do hope one of your schedules will allow this, please let me know at 404-729-1444 (cell).

Thank you !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
404-562-8439 [fax]
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 11/01/2010 01:45 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: mmonahan@walterenergy.com, Gloria Laster <gloria@o2ideas.com>

Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Ben Moore/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, "Duites, Metz" <MPD@adem.state.al.us>, "Favors, Sonja" <SMB@adem.state.al.us>, Barbara.newman@icdh.org

Date: 11/01/2010 12:58 PM

Subject: Invitation for VIP Briefing, Wed. Nov, 3, 10 am, Harriman Park Rec. Center, N. Birmingham

Invitations have now been issued to the 3 neighborhood assn. presidents, the 2 city councilors and the one AL representative for a VIP briefing session, along with the Wed., Nov. 3 at 10 am at Harriman Park Recreation Center (4347 F.L. Shuttlesworth Drive; 205-841-6939). We indicated Walter Coke, Inc. would be in attendance. Other agencies are encouraged to join us, if their schedules allow. This should take about 30-45 minutes.

We look forward to your participation with us. Thank you !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
RCRA Division

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404-562-8439 [fax]

holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 11/01/2010 04:02 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org

Cc: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Jeff Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, "Stewart, Chuck" <cstewart@walterenergy.com>, smb@adem.state.al.us, MPD@adem.state.al.us, Ben Moore/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Barbara.newman@jcdh.org, waynestudyvin@jcdh.org

Date: 10/04/2010 03:45 PM

Subject: Re-Send: Letter from EPA to Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling @ Four (4) N. Birmingham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon

Superintendent, Birmingham City School System:

For some reason, the attachment re: the letter we mailed was not attached in last Friday's e-mail. So sorry. Now it is. See below. Thank you.

(See attached file: Birmingham Schools letter from EPA 100110.PDF)

Brian Holtzclaw

Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>

RCRA Division

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----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 10/04/2010 03:37 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org

Cc: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Jeff Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/01/2010 01:52 PM

Subject: Letter from EPA to Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling @ Four (4) N. Birmingham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon:

I am electronically attaching a letter, that will be on its way there via USPS. If you have any questions feel free to call me at the # below or 404-729-1444 (cell), or others identified in the letter (page 2). Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw

Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>

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404-562-8439 [fax]
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Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:27 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #17: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:54 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: Bob Morgan <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>
Cc: Gloria Laster <gloria@o2ideas.com>, mmonahan@walterenergy.com, Ben Moore/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/14/2010 10:26 AM
Subject: Call Scheduled for Today (afternoon) -- Birmingham City Schools Call re: Environmental Sampling

As discussed, our proposed call is the following:

Date: Thursday, 10/14/10
Time: 2:45pm - 3:30pm (CST) or 3:45 - 4:30pm (EST)
Purpose/Agenda: To answer Birmingham City School questions about 10/1/10 EPA letter
Call-in: 1-866-299-3188; Conference Code 4045628684#

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
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Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:26 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #16: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:53 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: Bob Morgan <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>
Date: 10/12/2010 07:21 PM
Subject: Fw: Proposed Conf. Call: Letter from EPA to Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling

Bob:

Say, would it be possible to have a conference call on this subject matter tomorrow, sometime between 11 and 2 pm CST, or AL time ?

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
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holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 10/12/2010 07:14 PM -----

From: "Monahan, Michael" <mmonahan@walterenergy.com>
To: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/12/2010 07:06 PM
Subject: Re: Proposed Conf. Call: Letter from EPA to Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling

We're available mid-day tomorrow. I have some availability on Thurs and Fri., but limited.

Michael A. Monahan

On Oct 12, 2010, at 3:01 PM, "Holtzclaw.Brian@epamail.epa.gov" <Holtzclaw.Brian@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

> Bob:

>

> Just tried to return your call, I was out on a business trip all for
> most of last week and just returned today. I am cc'ing Gloria Laster
> with O2 Birmingham (consultant to Walter Coke) and Michael Monahan

> (Corporate Communications, Walter Energy), whom I am collaborating with
> re: issues of community engagement. Suggest we set up a conference
> call this week if possible. What does your schedule look like? Wed.
> and Thursday are better for me. Mike and Gloria, please outline your
> preferences also. Thanks !
>
> Brian Holtzclaw
> Community Engagement Initiative
> <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
> RCRA Division
> [Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
> US EPA Region 4
> 61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
> 404-562-8684
> 404-562-8439 [fax]
> holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov
>
>
>
> From: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>
>
> To: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
>
> Date: 10/11/2010 12:53 PM
>
> Subject: Re-Send: Letter from EPA to Superintendant, Birmingham City Schools re:
Environmental Soil Sampling
>
>
>
>
>
>
> Brian, please call me at your convenience. I would like to ste up a
> conference call relative to the above. Hope all is well.
>
> Thanks Bob
>
> Robert A. Morgan
> Director of Capital Projects
> Birmingham City Schools
> Phillips Bldg Rm 212
> 2316 7th Ave North
> Birmingham AL 35203
>
> Office: 231-2082
> Fax: 231-2060
> Cell: 965-0285
> Email: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org
>
>>>> <Holtzclaw.Brian@epamail.epa.gov> 10/4/2010 2:45:39 PM >>>
>
> Dr. Craig Witherspoon
> Superintendent, Birmingham City School System:
>
> For some reason, the attachment re: the letter we mailed was not
> attached in last Friday's e-mail. So sorry. Now it is. See below.
> Thank you.
> (See attached file: Birmingham Schools letter from EPA 100110.PDF)
> Brian Holtzclaw
> Community Engagement Initiative
> <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>

> RCRA Division
> [Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
> US EPA Region 4
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> holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov
> ----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 10/04/2010 03:37 PM
> -----
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> From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
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> To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
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> Cc: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com,
> shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Jeff
> Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
>
>
> Date: 10/01/2010 01:52 PM
>
>
> Subject: Letter from EPA to Superintendant, Birmingham City Schools
> re: Environmental Soil Sampling @ Four
> (4) N. Birmingham Schools
>
>
>
>
>
> Dr. Craig Witherspoon:
>
> I am electronically attaching a letter, that will be on its way there
> via USPS. If you have any questions feel free to call me at the #
> below or 404-729-1444 (cell), or others identified in the letter (page
> 2). Thank you.
>
> Brian Holtzclaw
> Community Engagement Initiative
> <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
> RCRA Division
> US EPA Region 4
> 61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
> 404-562-8684
> 404-562-8439 [fax]
> holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov
> --
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> believed to be clean.
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>

This e-mail and any attachments may contain privileged and/or confidential information.
If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution or copying is
prohibited. If you received this email in error, please immediately notify the sender
and permanently delete all copies. Thank you.

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:25 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #15: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:52 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>
Cc: mmonahan@walterenergy.com, Gloria Laster <gloria@o2ideas.com>
Date: 10/12/2010 03:01 PM
Subject: Proposed Conf. Call: Letter from EPA to Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling

Bob:

Just tried to return your call, I was out on a business trip all for most of last week and just returned today. I am cc'ing Gloria Laster with O2 Birmingham (consultant to Walter Coke) and Michael Monahan (Corporate Communications, Walter Energy), whom I am collaborating with re: issues of community engagement. Suggest we set up a conference call this week if possible. What does your schedule look like? Wed. and Thursday are better for me. Mike and Gloria, please outline your preferences also. Thanks !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative <http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>
RCRA Division
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US EPA Region 4
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404-562-8684
404-562-8439 [fax]
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

"Bob Morgan" ---10/11/2010 12:53:53 PM---Brian, please call me at your convenience. I would like to ste up a conference call relative to the

From: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>
To: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/11/2010 12:53 PM
Subject: Re-Send: Letter from EPA to Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling

Brian, please call me at your convenience. I would like to ste up a conference call relative to the above. Hope all is well.

Thanks Bob

Robert A. Morgan
Director of Capital Projects
Birmingham City Schools
Phillips Bldg Rm 212
2316 7th Ave North
Birmingham AL 35203

Office: 231-2082
Fax: 231-2060
Cell: 965-0285
Email: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org

>>> <Holtzclaw.Brian@epamail.epa.gov> 10/4/2010 2:45:39 PM >>>

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City School System:

For some reason, the attachment re: the letter we mailed was not attached in last Friday's e-mail. So sorry. Now it is. See below. Thank you.

(See attached file: Birmingham Schools letter from EPA 100110.PDF)

Brian Holtzclaw

Community Engagement Initiative

<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>

RCRA Division

[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]

US EPA Region 4

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404-562-8684

404-562-8439 [fax]

holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 10/04/2010 03:37 PM

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org

Cc: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com,
shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Jeff
Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 10/01/2010 01:52 PM

Subject: Letter from EPA to Superintendant, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental
Soil Sampling @ Four
(4) N. Birmingham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon:

I am electronically attaching a letter, that will be on its way there via USPS. If you have any questions feel free to call me at the # below or 404-729-1444 (cell), or others identified in the letter (page 2). Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw

Community Engagement Initiative

<http://www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative/index.htm>

RCRA Division

US EPA Region 4

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404-562-8684

404-562-8439 [fax]

holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

--

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Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:25 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #14: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: Birmingham Schools letter from EPA 100110.PDF

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:51 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Jeff Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, "Stewart, Chuck" <cstewart@walterenergy.com>, smb@adem.state.al.us, MPD@adem.state.al.us, Ben Moore/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Barbara.newman@icdh.org, waynestudyvin@icdh.org
Date: 10/04/2010 03:45 PM
Subject: Re-Send: Letter from EPA to Superintendant, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling @ Four (4) N. Birmingham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City School System:

For some reason, the attachment re: the letter we mailed was not attached in last Friday's e-mail. So sorry. Now it is. See below. Thank you.

(See attached file: Birmingham Schools letter from EPA 100110.PDF)

Brian Holtzclaw

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RCRA Division

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From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Jeff Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 10/01/2010 01:52 PM
Subject: Letter from EPA to Superintendant, Birmingham City Schools re: Environmental Soil Sampling @ Four (4) N. Birmingham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon:

I am electronically attaching a letter, that will be on its way there via USPS. If you have any questions feel free to call me at the # below or 404-729-1444 (cell), or others identified in the letter (page 2). Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw

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Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:24 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #13: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:44 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: "Samuetta Drew" <shdrew@bhamcityschools.org>
Cc: Bob Morgan <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Barbara.newman@icdh.org
Date: 05/24/2010 12:54 PM
Subject: Response: As promised, here is draft Information Sheet - B'Ham City School Contamination Issue

Dr. Drew:

Thank you. After recently speaking with Ms. Barbara Newman (JCDH) about the effectiveness of letters being sent directly to parents (versus relying on children to bring them home), I am making ourselves available to mail the fact sheet out directly as well for Riggins. The only thing we would need is a printout of student addresses of those attending this past year. If there is a confidentiality claim EPA would need to sign, we would be happy to do that. If we need to discuss the pros and cons of taking that possible extra measure, we are willing to do that.

Now that we are getting Riggins School behind us, so to speak --- let's try to set up a conference call re: our collective response and communication activities to the Hudson School contamination found. EPA has some preliminary ideas. Thank you !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
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404-562-8684
404-562-8438 [fax]
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

"Samuetta Drew" ---05/21/2010 05:50:08 PM---The Riggins Information Sheet was delivered today as stated earlier and were distributed to students

From: "Samuetta Drew" <shdrew@bhamcityschools.org>
To: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>, Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, <ramorganbcs@gmail.com>
Date: 05/21/2010 05:50 PM
Subject: Re: As promised, here is draft Information Sheet - B'Ham City School Contamination Issue

The Riggins Information Sheet was delivered today as stated earlier and were distributed to students and staff.

>>> <Holtzclaw.Brian@epamail.epa.gov> 05/10/10 12:40 PM >>>

Mr. Morgan and Dr. Drew:

Thanks Bob for discussing this issue with me this morning. Please return comments to me verbally and/or written, preferably today or tomorrow morning, using your local perspective. (Note that I need a local B'Ham City School System contact name at the bottom). Then I plan to share with our Office of External Affairs for finalization. And we will hopefully translated asap into Spanish also. As shared with Bob, if enough questions are generated locally, I can make a trip to B'ham and meet with staff/parents this week for an afternoon session.

Also, I would like you to set up call with the Riggins principal tomorrow, if possible.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative
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RCRA Division
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US EPA Region 4
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holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev4may2010.doc)

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Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:23 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #12: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RigginsSchoolFactSheetSpanishrev1may2010.doc; Scan001.PDF; RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev7may2010.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:43 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: barbara.newman@jcdh.org, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/19/2010 07:57 PM
Subject: Urgent: Inquiry on Actions Taken re: Sign Postings, English and Spanish Fact Sheet -- Riggins School

Bob Morgan
Dr. Samuella Drew
Birmingham City School District
Office of the Superintendant:

We've really appreciated your cooperation the past several weeks to engage with EPA to learn about and jointly create an action plan to address the issue of environmental sampling findings of Arsenic and PAHs that were above levels of concern on school property.

For the record, to be protective of student health, EPA highly recommended that certain actions be taken NLT, Monday, 5/17/10. These actions included the posting of signage on the grounds of Riggins School, mesh fencing along the roof drip-line, and the meaningful transparent release of our EPA English/Spanish Fact Sheets to the public, school staff, parents, children. It is our understanding from conversations with you that our advice on risk management activities (signage and fencing) were to have been carried out at about the same time as the release of the Fact Sheets. Also for the record, I've made myself available to travel there to answer any public questions being raised on this topic (am still available).

I am writing both of you because I have not received any return calls or e-mails with updates since Monday. And I would greatly appreciate a response, in order to internally update my EPA management. Thanks to Barbara Newman (Jefferson County Public Health Dept), I have another idea for enhancing the current outreach communication strategy to parents at Riggins, as well as Hudson school (of all students this past school year; even after the school year ends). You may be understandably busy, but I need to document your Birmingham School District communication and response activities related to the Riggins school soil contamination issue.

Just so you know, EPA and its partners will be out in the communities (neighboring the Walter Coke facility) in the near future doing extensive outreach on the residential sampling results, which will inevitably raise public questions on the school sampling results and the respective responsive actions taken by your office. So this update will serve a dual purpose.

I greatly appreciate in advance a response. Thank you !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
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US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684

holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 05/19/2010 07:16 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org

Cc: barbara.newman@jcdh.org, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 05/17/2010 01:15 PM

Subject: Urgent: Compilation of Suggested Sign Locations, English and Spanish Fact Sheet -- Riggins School

Bob and Samuetta:

This is a compilation to make your life easier, since I was sending separate e-mails on all 3 items:

1. The latest map, suggesting the minimal 5 sign posting locations @ Riggins School. These locations are per our EPA technical specialist/manager (RCRA program), taking into account the sampling results and risk management. If you happen to have more signs to apply, then we suggest adding to the track and field area because it is so large and may appear to be used more by children.

(See attached file: Scan001.PDF)

2. The latest Spanish fact sheet (made a spelling adjustment re: "Birmingham" in 4th paragraph)

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetSpanishrev1may2010.doc)

3. The same English fact sheet I sent Friday

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev7may2010.doc)

Please call me to confirm receipt @ 404-729-1444 and let me know how things are progressing with the signs and the plastic mesh fencing that will encircle the school at the dripline. Thanks !

Brian Holtzclaw

Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm

RCRA Division

[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]

US EPA Region 4

61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303

404-562-8684

holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 05/17/2010 12:30 PM -----

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:22 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #11: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RigginsSchoolFactSheetSpanishrev1may2010.doc; RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev6may2010-Spanish.doc; Scan001.PDF; RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev7may2010.doc; ATTNBOXA.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:40 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: barbara.newman@jcdh.org, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/17/2010 01:15 PM
Subject: Urgent: Compilation of Suggested Sign Locations, English and Spanish Fact Sheet -- Riggins School

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1. The latest map, suggesting the minimal 5 sign posting locations @ Riggins School. These locations are per our EPA technical specialist/manager (RCRA program), taking into account the sampling results and risk management. If you happen to have more signs to apply, then we suggest adding to the track and field area because it is so large and may appear to be used more by children.

(See attached file: Scan001.PDF)

2. The latest Spanish fact sheet (made a spelling adjustment re: "Birmingham" in 4th paragraph)

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetSpanishrev1may2010.doc)

3. The same English fact sheet I sent Friday

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev7may2010.doc)

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Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 05/17/2010 12:30 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Barbara.newman@jcdh.org, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/17/2010 11:53 AM
Subject: Urgent: Fact Sheet in Spanish: Riggins School

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:22 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #10: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev6may2010-Spanish.doc; ATTNBOXA.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:39 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Barbara.newman@jcdh.org, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/17/2010 11:53 AM
Subject: Urgent: Fact Sheet in Spanish: Riggins School

Bob and Samuetta:

Thanks to Gracy Danois here at EPA, the Fact Sheet you plan to release/post today is also in Spanish. See attachment. And please let's talk today, my # is 404-729-1444 (cell). Thank you !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:21 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #9: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RiggensSchoolFactSheetrev7may2010.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:37 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Gracy Danois/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Jeff Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Matt Robbins/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Ben Moore/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Kara Belle/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Meredith Anderson/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Quantindra Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/14/2010 10:40 AM
Subject: Final Fact Sheet: B'Ham City School Contamination Issue

Bob and Samuetta:

Here is the final Fact Sheet, after taking in additional comments from our Office of External Affairs and ATSDR. Please let us know when you will initiate the distribution to staff, parents and children, preferably NLT Monday. It sounds like this flyer has to go through your media office today. My EPA Spanish translator is making some final adjustments, and will forward that version as soon as it is received on our end.

FYI, on Monday, we have plans for our technical management to directly notify a key manager, Jeff Kitchens, of Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM). I have already briefed ADEM's Community Engagement lead, Ms. Sonya Favors. Internally, it appears we have briefed all pertinent folks at EPA Region 4.

Please keep me posted as to the progress not only of your notification, but also the installation of the fence (around the entire building's drip-line) and the signs. I am hereby asking my technical manager to send you the sampling map, so you can place the signs accordingly not only at places along the fence, but in better proximity to the open grassy areas where soil samples were found above levels of concern. And also, please report to me, if local concerns are raised to a point that warrant me driving to Birmingham to directly answer questions. I would be happy to assist.

(See attached file: RiggensSchoolFactSheetrev7may2010.doc)

Thank you !

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:21 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #8: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev6may2010.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:35 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org, Barbara.newman@icdh.org
Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, Jeff Pallas/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 05/12/2010 11:54 AM
Subject: Urgent: [English] Fact Sheet ready to released asap to parents, school, community. (Riggins School, B'Ham, AL)

Bob, Samuetta and Barbara:

Attached is the completed English translation of the Fact Sheet, approved by our EPA Office of External Affairs. See below, our translator is doing this in Spanish (hopefully today). So if you are ready to go with mitigation measures today (e.g., fencing and signs), we are pretty good for you to release this in parallel, as we discussed. I would like a 3-way call with the principal of Riggins between 1 and 4 pm today --- could you please coordinate (I'd like to notify him of my availability to come to B'ham if enough local interest is generated to answer direct questions, etc). Also, Bob, are you confident where you need to place the fence and signs --- if not, I will have my technical person contact you. Let me know. Thanks for everyone's input and cooperation. I can be reached today at 404-771-9073 (cell). - Brian

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:20 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #7: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev5may2010.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 01:33 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>, "Samuetta Drew" <shdrew@bhamcityschools.org>, Barbara.newman@jcdh.org
Date: 05/11/2010 02:14 PM
Subject: Follow-Up #2: Slightly revised draft Information Sheet - B'Ham City School Contamination Issue

This is hopefully final updated version with your contact information. Unless Barbara from the health dept has any input, I am forwarding this final version Information sheet to our Office of External Affairs for approval. Then we can circulate locally and put up fencing & signs at the school. THANKS !

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev5may2010.doc)

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

"Bob Morgan" ---05/11/2010 01:02:04 PM---Mr. Holtsclaw, contact info as requested indicated below: 1. You-As indicated

From: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>
To: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: "Samuetta Drew" <shdrew@bhamcityschools.org>
Date: 05/11/2010 01:02 PM
Subject: Re: Follow-Up: Slightly revised draft Information Sheet - B'Ham City School Contamination Issue

Mr. Holtsclaw, contact info as requested indicated below:

1. You-As indicated
2. Ms. Samuetta Drew, Birmingham City Schools: Chief of Schools/Operations, (205) 231-4913; shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
3. Mr. Bob Morgan, Birmingham City Schools: Director of Capital Projects, (205) 231-2082; ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org

Hopefully this helps complete your document. Let me know if any

questions.

Thanks Bob

>>> <Holtzclaw.Brian@epamail.epa.gov> 5/11/2010 10:11:26 AM >>>

Hello there. Left message yesterday and today, sounds like you all are very busy. Look forward to your return call @ 404-729-1444 (cell). Please refer to slightly modified version below. Still need your input and contact name at bottom on this important Information Sheet.

Also Barbara Newman --- please provide your comments as well from your perspective with JCDH.

As we discussed the other week, I was hoping that B'Ham City School System could release this to faculty, parents and children on today (5/11/10) at Riggins. After release, if the principal feels there is a lot of feedback or concern from this Information Sheet --- I will be happy to make a trip from Atlanta to answer questions and answers directly of any staff or parent, whether this be tomorrow, Thursday or Friday (or next week).

EPA is obligated to make ourselves available to your community and continues to look forward to working with you. Thank you !

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev5may2010.doc)

Brian Holtzclaw

Community Engagement Initiative

www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm

RCRA Division

[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]

US EPA Region 4

61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303

404-562-8684

holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 05/11/2010 10:57 AM

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US

To: Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org/O=,
ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org,/, ,

Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA

Date: 05/10/2010 02:24 PM

Subject: As promised, here is draft Information Sheet - B;Ham City School Contamination Issue

Mr. Morgan and Dr. Drew:

Thanks Bob for discussing this issue with me this morning. Please return comments to me verbally and/or written, preferably today or tomorrow morning, using your local perspective. (Note that I need a local B'Ham City School System contact name at the bottom). Then I plan to share with our Office of External Affairs for finalization. And we will hopefully translated asap into Spanish also. As shared with Bob, if enough questions are generated locally, I can make a trip to B'ham and meet with staff/parents this week for an afternoon session.

Also, I would like you to set up call with the Riggins principal tomorrow, if possible.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative
www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

--

This message has been scanned for viruses and dangerous content by MailScanner, and is believed to be clean.

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:20 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #6: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev4may2010.doc

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 12:02 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org, ramorganbcs@gmail.com, shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
Date: 05/10/2010 02:40 PM
Subject: As promised, here is draft Information Sheet - B'Ham City School Contamination Issue

Mr. Morgan and Dr. Drew:

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Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

(See attached file: RigginsSchoolFactSheetrev4may2010.doc)

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:19 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #4: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: El Cajon School Fact Sheet.pdf; Glen Falls NY Frasier building letter.doc; El Cajon School Community Strategy Profile.pdf; Los Angeles School Fact Sheet.pdf; Glen Falls Frasier Paints cleanup letter to Parents.doc; Los Angeles School Community Strategy Profile.pdf; Lexington School Merc. Spill Fact Sheet FAQ.pdf

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 11:39 AM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: "Bob Morgan" <ramorgan@bhamcityschools.org>, ramorganbcs@gmail.com
Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 04/28/2010 03:32 PM
Subject: Thanks for Conversation: U.S. EPA Offering Outreach Support on Environmental Findings @ 4 N. B'Ham Schools

Bob Morgan
B'ham City Schools System

Thank you Bob for discussing the highlights of this issue with me this afternoon. As shared, I tentatively proposed a call for Friday, 11 am EST (10 am CST), with you to give you a brief update, discuss communication strategy further, and potential mitigation approaches. Please note that should our technical folks/manager arriving back from MS perhaps need to move this to later Friday -- I will let you know. As promised, here is yesterday's e-mail sent to Dr. Witherspoon and examples of communications.

The call-in # would be 1-866-299-3188, conf. code 4045628684#.

Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-562-8684
holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 04/28/2010 03:24 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 04/27/2010 06:36 PM
Subject: Priority, Response Requested: U.S. EPA Offering Outreach Support on Environmental Findings @ 4 N. B'Ham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools System:

We're sorry that you had a conflict with our previously arranged call last Friday. This is simply a follow-up to contact from Karen Knight and myself * re: environmental findings at these schools, Riggins, Hudson, the (now closed) Carver, and Calloway.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) believes that *early and meaningful communications* are critical when school property (or adjacent property) is evaluated for potential contamination. As shared, we stand ready to assist your Birmingham City Schools System on this sound public policy, in light of our experience on these issues. EPA looks forward to work with you and your staff. We are providing some examples of actions taken by federal and state agencies dealing with the similar issues you face (see Attachments). We would be glad to discuss these examples.

Practical Outreach Examples – School Contamination

Examples of Outreach: Letter, Fact Sheets, Frequently Asked Questions (given to children for their parents); Community Profile, Press Release

- School in Glens Falls, NY
- School in Lexington, GA
- School in El Cajon, CA and Los Angeles, CA

California EPA, DTSC School Environmental Evaluation Program (one of the top efforts in the country to assess for safe school properties) http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/index.cfm#Environmental_Education,

EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment is also grounded on our core values of transparency, science and the rule of law. We especially look forward to working with you on the issue of transparency. When EPA is associated with environmental findings (in this instance during oversight of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act enacted by Congress), we are committed to the community's right-to-know. As expressed, we stand by to collaborate with you and other partners (e.g., elected officials) to support parents, who are both caregivers and tax payers, *to know promptly what is going on at their children's schools and be safeguarded from potential effects of soil contamination*.

EPA believes that our joint dialogue will help your office: plan an effective customized, straightforward communication and resolution strategy, as well as help execute it for these 4 Birmingham schools. I greatly look forward to you getting back with me soon to schedule a call, and/or set up a face-to-face meeting in Birmingham. Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Coordinator
U.S EPA Region 4
RCRA Division – Community Engagement Initiative
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-729-1444 (cell); 404-562-8684 (work)
www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm

* U.S. EPA contact thus far has been several e-mails and phone calls from Karen Knight, RCRA Corrective Action Program Chief (between 4/20 and 4/23/10); and two requests for a call-back from Brian Holtzclaw, Community Engagement Coordinator (with your scheduling receptionist on 4/26/10).

(See attached file: *Glen Falls NY Frasier building letter.doc*)(See attached file: *Glen Falls Frasier Paints cleanup letter to Parents.doc*)(See attached file: *Lexington School Merc. Spill Fact Sheet FAQ.pdf*)(See attached file: *Los Angeles School Fact Sheet.pdf*)(See attached file: *Los Angeles School Community Strategy*

Profile.pdf)(See attached file: El Cajon School Fact Sheet.pdf)(See attached file: El Cajon School Community Strategy Profile.pdf)

Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:18 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #2: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717
Attachments: El Cajon School Fact Sheet.pdf; Glen Falls NY Frasier building letter.doc; Los Angeles School Fact Sheet.pdf; Glen Falls Frasier Paints cleanup letter to Parents.doc; Los Angeles School Community Strategy Profile.pdf; Lexington School Merc. Spill Fact Sheet FAQ.pdf

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 11:33 AM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 04/27/2010 06:36 PM
Subject: Priority, Response Requested: U.S. EPA Offering Outreach Support on Environmental Findings @ 4 N. B'Ham Schools

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Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools System:

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EPA believes that our joint dialogue will help your office: plan an effective customized, straightforward communication and resolution strategy, as well as help execute it for these 4 Birmingham schools. I greatly look forward to you getting back with me soon to schedule a call, and/or set up a face-to-face meeting in Birmingham. Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Coordinator
U.S EPA Region 4
RCRA Division – Community Engagement Initiative
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-729-1444 (cell); 404-562-8684 (work)
www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm

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Uslu, Gayla

From: Holtzclaw, Brian
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2013 4:18 PM
To: Uslu, Gayla
Subject: EMAIL #3: FOIA Assignment for EPA-R4-2013-00717

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 06/14/2013 11:38 AM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 04/28/2010 01:30 PM
Subject: Follow-up: U.S. EPA Offering Outreach Support on Environmental Findings @ 4 N. B'Ham Schools

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools System (BCSS):

Thanks again for your call around noon today.

We look forward to working with Bob Morgan, who you indicated was a BCSS liaison with capital and special projects. I just left him a voice message at the # you gave me, 205-231-2082. Could you please share an e-mail address and alternative phone # for Mr. Morgan as well? Again, we look forward to work with your office towards achieving a communications & mitigation strategy with Mr. Morgan and other partners. Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Initiative www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm
RCRA Division
[Detailed from Brownfields/Revitalization Program]
US EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
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holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US on 04/28/2010 01:20 PM -----

From: Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US
To: cwitherspoon@bhamcityschools.org
Cc: Karen Knight/R4/USEPA/US@EPA, JamesH Smith/R4/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 04/27/2010 06:36 PM
Subject: Priority, Response Requested: U.S. EPA Offering Outreach Support on Environmental Findings @ 4 N. B'Ham Schools

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- School in El Cajon, CA and Los Angeles, CA

California EPA, DTSC School Environmental Evaluation Program (one of the top efforts in the country to assess for safe school properties) http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/Schools/index.cfm#Environmental_Education.

EPA's mission to protect human health and the environment is also grounded on our core values of transparency, science and the rule of law. We especially look forward to working with you on the issue of transparency. When EPA is associated with environmental findings (in this instance during oversight of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act enacted by Congress), we are committed to the community's right-to-know. As expressed, we stand by to collaborate with you and other partners (e.g., elected officials) to support parents, who are both caregivers and tax payers, *to know promptly what is going on at their children's schools and be safeguarded from potential effects of soil contamination*.

EPA believes that our joint dialogue will help your office: plan an effective customized, straightforward communication and resolution strategy, as well as help execute it for these 4 Birmingham schools. I greatly look forward to you getting back with me soon to schedule a call, and/or set up a face-to-face meeting in Birmingham. Thank you.

Brian Holtzclaw
Community Engagement Coordinator
U.S EPA Region 4
RCRA Division – Community Engagement Initiative
61 Forsyth St, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303
404-729-1444 (cell); 404-562-8684 (work)
www.epa.gov/oswer/engagementinitiative.htm

* U.S. EPA contact thus far has been several e-mails and phone calls from Karen Knight, RCRA Corrective Action Program Chief (between 4/20 and 4/23/10); and two requests for a call-back from Brian Holtzclaw, Community Engagement Coordinator (with your scheduling receptionist on 4/26/10).
[attachment "Glen Falls NY Frasier building letter.doc" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US] [attachment "Glen Falls Frasier Paints cleanup letter to Parents.doc" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US] [attachment "Lexington School Merc. Spill Fact Sheet FAQ.pdf" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US] [attachment "Los Angeles School Fact Sheet.pdf" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US] [attachment "Los Angeles School Community Strategy Profile.pdf" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US] [attachment "El Cajon School Fact Sheet.pdf" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US] [attachment "El Cajon School Community Strategy Profile.pdf" deleted by Brian Holtzclaw/R4/USEPA/US]



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

OCT 01 2010

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools
2015 Park Place
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Subject: Environmental Soil Sampling Results for the Riggins Alternative School, former Hudson School, Calloway Head Start School, and former Carver High School

Dear Dr. Witherspoon:

This letter is to formally notify you of the results from soil samples collected on the school properties cited above, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) discussed with you and your staff in April 2010. In cooperation with EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Program, Walter Coke, Inc. (formerly Sloss Industries Corporation), agreed to assist EPA in its evaluation of certain constituents in soil at the school properties located in the communities of Fairmont, Collegeville, and Harriman Park. The constituents in this study were Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, measured as Benzo(a)pyrene toxicity equivalents (BaP TEQ), and Arsenic. The study compared detected concentrations in soil to screening levels.

In April/May 2010, Brian Holtzclaw and Karen Knight held numerous discussions with you and several members of your staff on the sampling results and provided some initial guidance on protective measures to be taken on school properties. As discussed at that time, EPA has evaluated these sampling results and determined that BaP TEQ was above screening levels at the Riggins School, former Hudson School, and former Carver High School. Arsenic was above the screening level at one sampling point at the former Carver High School. Being above a screening level indicates that further investigation may be warranted.

Enclosed are the laboratory results for each of the four school properties sampled (Enclosure 1), and sampling maps of all four school properties (Enclosure 2). In addition, enclosed are two fact sheets prepared by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), providing answers to frequently asked health questions on Arsenic and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, the two constituents for which the soil was tested (Enclosure 3). If you have any questions on public health issues regarding these constituents, please contact Mr. Ben Moore with ATSDR at (404) 562-1784, or 1-(888)-422-8737 (ATSDR Hotline).

EPA and Walter Coke would like the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to answer any questions you may have with regard to this investigation. Brian Holtzclaw, Community Engagement Coordinator in the Restoration and UST Branch at EPA Region 4, will be contacting you to arrange a time for the meeting. He may be reached directly at (404) 562-8684 or by electronic mail at holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov. If you would like to contact Walter Coke directly, you may call Michael Monahan at (205) 745-2628 or by electronic mail at mmonahan@waltercoke.com.

If you have technical questions about the data cited herein, please contact Jim Smith, RCRA Project Manager, at (404) 562- 8502 or Karen Knight, Chief, Corrective Action Section, at (404) 562-8885. Legal inquiries should be directed to Joan Redleaf Durbin, Associate Regional Counsel, at (404) 562-9544. You can also contact me directly at (404) 562-8569.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey T. Pallas
Chief, Restoration and UST Branch
RCRA Division

Enclosures (3)

1. Environmental Sampling results for Riggins Alternative School, Hudson School, Calloway Head Start and Former Carver High School
2. Sampling Maps for Riggins Alternative School, Former Hudson School, Calloway Head Start and Former Carver High School
3. ToxFAQs™ for Arsenic and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

cc: Mr. Chuck Stewart, President and COO, Walter Coke, Inc.
Ms. Sonja Favors, Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management
Metz Duites, Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management
Mr. Bob Strottman, SVP of Construction Management (Former Carver High School)
Mr. Cary W. Neil, President, New Start Neighborhood Revitalizations, LLC (Former Carver High School)
Mr. Ben Moore, Regional Representative, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
Ms. Barbara Newman, Environmental Health Program Supervisor, Jefferson County Health Department
Mr. Wayne Studyvin, Director of Environmental Health, Jefferson County Health Department

Enclosure 1

Sampling Results for Riggins Alternative School

Sampling Date: July 21, 2009

Comment: In the April/May 2010 timeframe, the EPA collaborated with the School District to take proactive action to provide preliminary corrective action at Riggins School. This included parent/faculty notification (using an EPA-composed Fact Sheet in English and Spanish), posting of precautionary yard signage (playground and drip line area) and erecting a mesh fence around the drip line of the school to prevent access and potential exposure to this area.

Sample Designation and Location: OSW-8	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Sub: B1	8.8 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	10.673 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Front yard	8.5 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	9.985 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: B2	8.5 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	12.913 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P1	8.9 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	3.54 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P2	9.4 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.936 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P3	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.122 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P4	9.6 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.238 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P5	7.3 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.096 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P6	8.1 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.654 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P7	4.9 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.097 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P8	8.4 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.125 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P9	7.9 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.125 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 1	8.5 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	460.1 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 2	20.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	982.2 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 3	13 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	705.1 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 4	8.7 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	651.6 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The soil screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.
- Highlighted cells indicate the sampling result was above screening levels.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Sampling Results for Former Hudson School

Sampling Date: July 23, 2009

Comment: The environmental sampling results (see below table) reflect samples taken at and around the former Hudson School, which was demolished after these samples, were taken and whose property was significantly re-landscaped. A new Hudson School was constructed. Since the locations of the original sampling event were disturbed to such a large degree, EPA and Walter Coke deemed it would be prudent to re-sample the new school property. Walter Coke and its contractors re-sampled the school property in August 2010. As of the date of this letter, preliminary environmental sampling results indicate lower contaminant concentrations. EPA and Walter Coke will release the findings of the re-sampling to the School District after the data is validated.

Sample Designation and Location: OSS-10	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Front yard	15.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	39.3 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Side yard left	14.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	29.07 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BA	17.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.812 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BB	18.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.629 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BC	7.4 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.650 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BD	8.3 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.926 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play area-composite	30.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.621 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play Area-Grab	38.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	7.275 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.
- Highlighted cells indicate the sampling result was above screening levels.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

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www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Sampling Results for Calloway Head Start School

Sample Date: July 16, 2009

Comment: Due to the results being below short-term soil screening levels, EPA recommends no action be taken at this time at this Birmingham school property (which is reportedly leased to Head Start).

Sample Designation and Location: OSS-4	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Front yard	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.694 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Back yard	17.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.335 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Side yard left	17.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.539 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Side yard right	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.858 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play area 1	8.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.189 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play area 2	16.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.475 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Sampling Results for Former Carver High School

Sampling Date: July 15, 2009

Comment: EPA was informed that the School District transferred the current property from its ownership to the City of Birmingham. The former Carver High School is closed and has fencing.

Sample Designation and Location: OSS-32	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Front yard	14.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	6.992 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BA	5.6 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.075 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BB	15.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.890 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BC	15.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.892 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BD	20.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.705 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BE	6.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.055 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BF	16.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.022 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BG	36.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.266 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BH	46.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.216 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BI	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.607 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BJ	29.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.052 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BK	18.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.554 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BL	14.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.039 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.
- Highlighted cells indicate the sampling result was above screening levels.

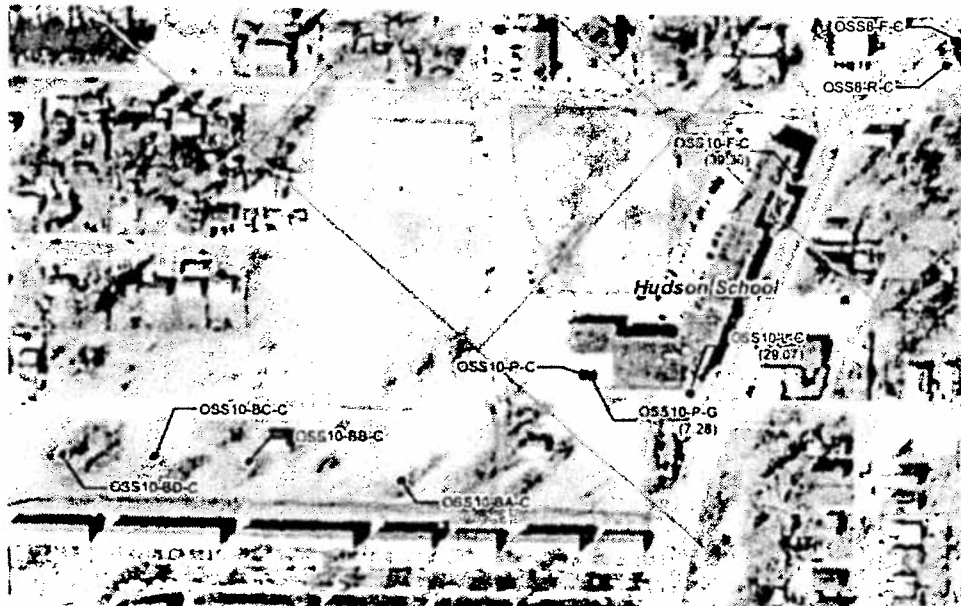
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:
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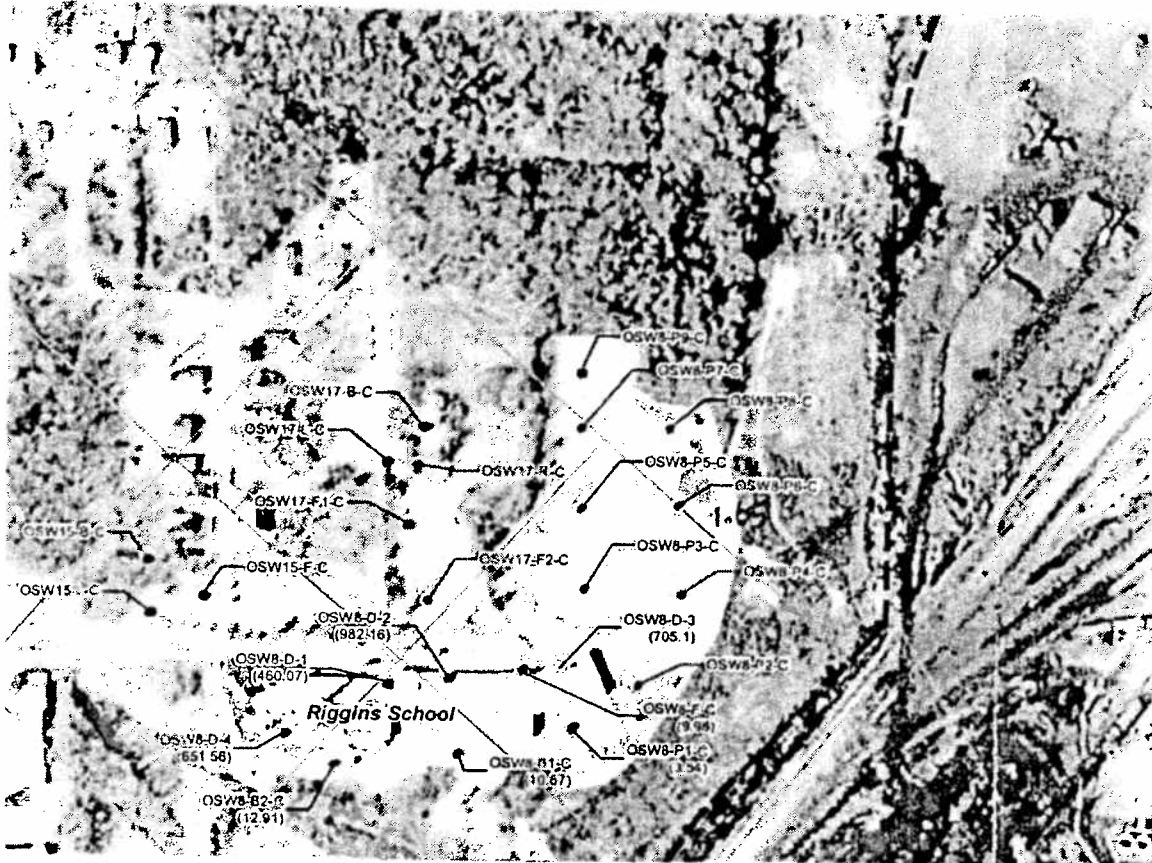
Enclosure 2

SAMPLING MAPS OF FOUR SCHOOLS



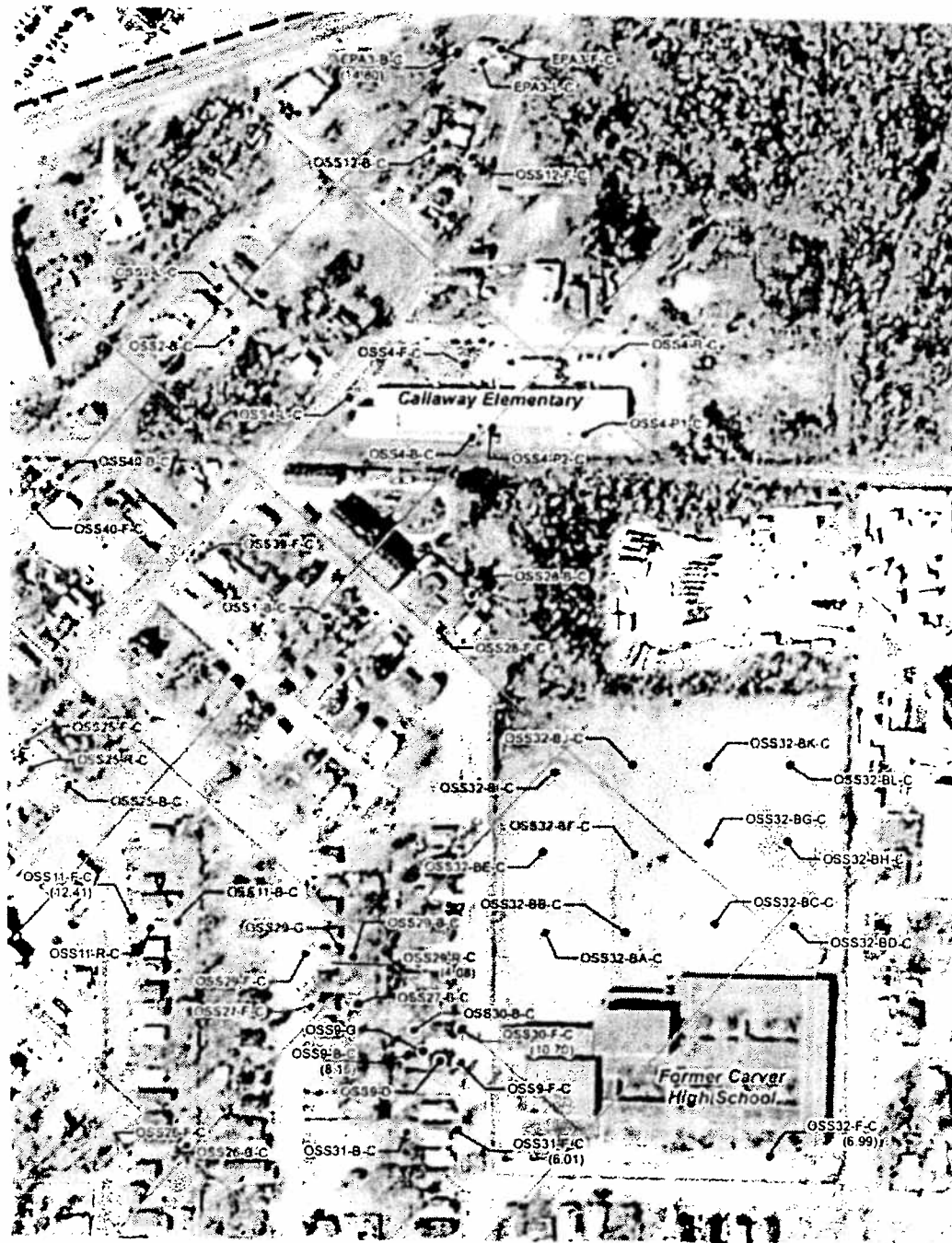
Sampling Locations for Hudson School
Birmingham, Alabama *

* Adapted from Figure 3-5 of Walter Coke, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama report prepared by CH2MHill.



Sampling Locations for Riggins School
Birmingham, Alabama *

* Adapted from Figure 3-7 of Walter Coke, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama report prepared by CH2MHill.



Sampling Locations for Callaway Elementary
and Carver High School
Birmingham, Alabama *

* Adapted from Figure 3-5 of Walter Coke, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama report prepared by CH2MHill.

Enclosure 3

ToxFAQs™ for Arsenic and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

This fact sheet answers the most frequently asked health questions (FAQs) about polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). For more information, call the ATSDR Information Center at 1-888-422-8737. This fact sheet is one in a series of summaries about hazardous substances and their health effects. This information is important because this substance may harm you. The effects of exposure to any hazardous substance depend on the dose, the duration, how you are exposed, personal traits and habits, and whether other chemicals are present.

SUMMARY: Exposure to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons usually occurs by breathing air contaminated by wild fires or coal tar, or by eating foods that have been grilled. PAHs have been found in at least 600 of the 1,430 National Priorities List sites identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

What are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons?

(Pronounced pöl'ī-sī/klīk ār'ə-māt'īk hī'drə-kar'bənz)

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a group of over 100 different chemicals that are formed during the incomplete burning of coal, oil and gas, garbage, or other organic substances like tobacco or charbroiled meat. PAHs are usually found as a mixture containing two or more of these compounds, such as soot.

Some PAHs are manufactured. These pure PAHs usually exist as colorless, white, or pale yellow-green solids. PAHs are found in coal tar, crude oil, creosote, and roofing tar, but a few are used in medicines or to make dyes, plastics, and pesticides.

What happens to PAHs when they enter the environment?

- ☐ PAHs enter the air mostly as releases from volcanoes, forest fires, burning coal, and automobile exhaust.
- ☐ PAHs can occur in air attached to dust particles.
- ☐ Some PAH particles can readily evaporate into the air from soil or surface waters.
- ☐ PAHs can break down by reacting with sunlight and other chemicals in the air, over a period of days to weeks.

- ☐ PAHs enter water through discharges from industrial and wastewater treatment plants.
- ☐ Most PAHs do not dissolve easily in water. They stick to solid particles and settle to the bottoms of lakes or rivers.
- ☐ Microorganisms can break down PAHs in soil or water after a period of weeks to months.
- ☐ In soils, PAHs are most likely to stick tightly to particles; certain PAHs move through soil to contaminate underground water.
- ☐ PAH contents of plants and animals may be much higher than PAH contents of soil or water in which they live.

How might I be exposed to PAHs?

- ☐ Breathing air containing PAHs in the workplace of coking, coal-tar, and asphalt production plants; smoke-houses; and municipal trash incineration facilities.
- ☐ Breathing air containing PAHs from cigarette smoke, wood smoke, vehicle exhausts, asphalt roads, or agricultural burn smoke.
- ☐ Coming in contact with air, water, or soil near hazardous waste sites.
- ☐ Eating grilled or charred meats; contaminated cereals, flour, bread, vegetables, fruits, meats; and processed or pickled foods.
- ☐ Drinking contaminated water or cow's milk.

ToxFAQs Internet address via WWW is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>

- ☐ Nursing infants of mothers living near hazardous waste sites may be exposed to PAHs through their mother's milk.

How can PAHs affect my health?

Mice that were fed high levels of one PAH during pregnancy had difficulty reproducing and so did their offspring. These offspring also had higher rates of birth defects and lower body weights. It is not known whether these effects occur in people.

Animal studies have also shown that PAHs can cause harmful effects on the skin, body fluids, and ability to fight disease after both short- and long-term exposure. But these effects have not been seen in people.

How likely are PAHs to cause cancer?

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has determined that some PAHs may reasonably be expected to be carcinogens.

Some people who have breathed or touched mixtures of PAHs and other chemicals for long periods of time have developed cancer. Some PAHs have caused cancer in laboratory animals when they breathed air containing them (lung cancer), ingested them in food (stomach cancer), or had them applied to their skin (skin cancer).

Is there a medical test to show whether I've been exposed to PAHs?

In the body, PAHs are changed into chemicals that can attach to substances within the body. There are special tests that can detect PAHs attached to these substances in body tissues or blood. However, these tests cannot tell whether any

health effects will occur or find out the extent or source of your exposure to the PAHs. The tests aren't usually available in your doctor's office because special equipment is needed to conduct them.

Has the federal government made recommendations to protect human health?

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set a limit of 0.2 milligrams of PAHs per cubic meter of air (0.2 mg/m³). The OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) for mineral oil mist that contains PAHs is 5 mg/m³ averaged over an 8-hour exposure period.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends that the average workplace air levels for coal tar products not exceed 0.1 mg/m³ for a 10-hour workday, within a 40-hour workweek. There are other limits for workplace exposure for things that contain PAHs, such as coal, coal tar, and mineral oil.

Glossary

Carcinogen: A substance that can cause cancer.

Ingest: Take food or drink into your body.

References

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 1995. Toxicological profile for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, contact the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Division of Toxicology, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop F-32, Atlanta, GA 30333. Phone: 1-888-422-8737, FAX: 770-488-4178. ToxFAQs Internet address via WWW is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html> ATSDR can tell you where to find occupational and environmental health clinics. Their specialists can recognize, evaluate, and treat illnesses resulting from exposure to hazardous substances. You can also contact your community or state health or environmental quality department if you have any more questions or concerns.



This fact sheet answers the most frequently asked health questions (FAQs) about arsenic. For more information, call the ATSDR Information Center at 1-800-232-4636. This fact sheet is one in a series of summaries about hazardous substances and their health effects. It is important you understand this information because this substance may harm you. The effects of exposure to any hazardous substance depend on the dose, the duration, how you are exposed, personal traits and habits, and whether other chemicals are present.

HIGHLIGHTS: Exposure to higher than average levels of arsenic occur mostly in the workplace, near hazardous waste sites, or in areas with high natural levels. At high levels, inorganic arsenic can cause death. Exposure to lower levels for a long time can cause a discoloration of the skin and the appearance of small corns or warts. Arsenic has been found in at least 1,149 of the 1,684 National Priority List sites identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

What is arsenic?

Arsenic is a naturally occurring element widely distributed in the earth's crust. In the environment, arsenic is combined with oxygen, chlorine, and sulfur to form inorganic arsenic compounds. Arsenic in animals and plants combines with carbon and hydrogen to form organic arsenic compounds.

Inorganic arsenic compounds are mainly used to preserve wood. Copper chromated arsenate (CCA) is used to make "pressure-treated" lumber. CCA is no longer used in the U.S. for residential uses; it is still used in industrial applications. Organic arsenic compounds are used as pesticides, primarily on cotton fields and orchards.

What happens to arsenic when it enters the environment?

- ☐ Arsenic occurs naturally in soil and minerals and may enter the air, water, and land from wind-blown dust and may get into water from runoff and leaching.
- ☐ Arsenic cannot be destroyed in the environment. It can only change its form.
- ☐ Rain and snow remove arsenic dust particles from the air.
- ☐ Many common arsenic compounds can dissolve in water. Most of the arsenic in water will ultimately end up in soil or sediment.
- ☐ Fish and shellfish can accumulate arsenic; most of this arsenic is in an organic form called arsenobetaine that is much less harmful.

How might I be exposed to arsenic?

- ☐ Ingesting small amounts present in your food and water or breathing air containing arsenic.
- ☐ Breathing sawdust or burning smoke from wood treated with arsenic.
- ☐ Living in areas with unusually high natural levels of arsenic in rock.
- ☐ Working in a job that involves arsenic production or use, such as copper or lead smelting, wood treating, or pesticide application.

How can arsenic affect my health?

Breathing high levels of inorganic arsenic can give you a sore throat or irritated lungs.

Ingesting very high levels of arsenic can result in death. Exposure to lower levels can cause nausea and vomiting, decreased production of red and white blood cells, abnormal heart rhythm, damage to blood vessels, and a sensation of "pins and needles" in hands and feet.

Ingesting or breathing low levels of inorganic arsenic for a long time can cause a darkening of the skin and the appearance of small "corns" or "warts" on the palms, soles, and torso.

Skin contact with inorganic arsenic may cause redness and swelling.

ToxFAQs™ Internet address is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>

Almost nothing is known regarding health effects of organic arsenic compounds in humans. Studies in animals show that some simple organic arsenic compounds are less toxic than inorganic forms. Ingestion of methyl and dimethyl compounds can cause diarrhea and damage to the kidneys

How likely is arsenic to cause cancer?

Several studies have shown that ingestion of inorganic arsenic can increase the risk of skin cancer and cancer in the liver, bladder, and lungs. Inhalation of inorganic arsenic can cause increased risk of lung cancer. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the EPA have determined that inorganic arsenic is a known human carcinogen. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has determined that inorganic arsenic is carcinogenic to humans.

How can arsenic affect children?

There is some evidence that long-term exposure to arsenic in children may result in lower IQ scores. There is also some evidence that exposure to arsenic in the womb and early childhood may increase mortality in young adults.

There is some evidence that inhaled or ingested arsenic can injure pregnant women or their unborn babies, although the studies are not definitive. Studies in animals show that large doses of arsenic that cause illness in pregnant females, can also cause low birth weight, fetal malformations, and even fetal death. Arsenic can cross the placenta and has been found in fetal tissues. Arsenic is found at low levels in breast milk.

How can families reduce the risks of exposure to arsenic?

☐ If you use arsenic-treated wood in home projects, you should wear dust masks, gloves, and protective clothing to decrease exposure to sawdust.

☐ If you live in an area with high levels of arsenic in water or soil, you should use cleaner sources of water and limit contact with soil.

☐ If you work in a job that may expose you to arsenic, be aware that you may carry arsenic home on your clothing, skin, hair, or tools. Be sure to shower and change clothes before going home.

Is there a medical test to determine whether I've been exposed to arsenic?

There are tests available to measure arsenic in your blood, urine, hair, and fingernails. The urine test is the most reliable test for arsenic exposure within the last few days. Tests on hair and fingernails can measure exposure to high levels of arsenic over the past 6-12 months. These tests can determine if you have been exposed to above-average levels of arsenic. They cannot predict whether the arsenic levels in your body will affect your health.

Has the federal government made recommendations to protect human health?

The EPA has set limits on the amount of arsenic that industrial sources can release to the environment and has restricted or cancelled many of the uses of arsenic in pesticides. EPA has set a limit of 0.01 parts per million (ppm) for arsenic in drinking water.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set a permissible exposure limit (PEL) of 10 micrograms of arsenic per cubic meter of workplace air (10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) for 8 hour shifts and 40 hour work weeks.

References

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 2007. Toxicological Profile for Arsenic (Update). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Public Health and Human Services, Public Health Service.

Where can I get more information? For more information, contact the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Division of Toxicology and Environmental Medicine, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop F-32, Atlanta, GA 30333. Phone: 1-800-232-4636, FAX: 770-488-4178. ToxFAQs Internet address via WWW is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>. ATSDR can tell you where to find occupational and environmental health clinics. Their specialists can recognize, evaluate, and treat illnesses resulting from exposure to hazardous substances. You can also contact your community or state health or environmental quality department if you have any more questions or concerns.





UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

OCT 01 2010

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools
2015 Park Place
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Subject: Environmental Soil Sampling Results for the Riggins Alternative School, former Hudson School, Calloway Head Start School, and former Carver High School

Dear Dr. Witherspoon:

This letter is to formally notify you of the results from soil samples collected on the school properties cited above, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) discussed with you and your staff in April 2010. In cooperation with EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Corrective Action Program, Walter Coke, Inc. (formerly Sloss Industries Corporation), agreed to assist EPA in its evaluation of certain constituents in soil at the school properties located in the communities of Fairmont, Collegeville, and Harriman Park. The constituents in this study were Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, measured as Benzo(a)pyrene toxicity equivalents (BaP TEQ), and Arsenic. The study compared detected concentrations in soil to screening levels.

In April/May 2010, Brian Holtzclaw and Karen Knight held numerous discussions with you and several members of your staff on the sampling results and provided some initial guidance on protective measures to be taken on school properties. As discussed at that time, EPA has evaluated these sampling results and determined that BaP TEQ was above screening levels at the Riggins School, former Hudson School, and former Carver High School. Arsenic was above the screening level at one sampling point at the former Carver High School. Being above a screening level indicates that further investigation may be warranted.

Enclosed are the laboratory results for each of the four school properties sampled (Enclosure 1), and sampling maps of all four school properties (Enclosure 2). In addition, enclosed are two fact sheets prepared by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), providing answers to frequently asked health questions on Arsenic and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, the two constituents for which the soil was tested (Enclosure 3). If you have any questions on public health issues regarding these constituents, please contact Mr. Ben Moore with ATSDR at (404) 562-1784, or 1-(888)-422-8737 (ATSDR Hotline).

EPA and Walter Coke would like the opportunity to meet with you and your staff to answer any questions you may have with regard to this investigation. Brian Holtzclaw, Community Engagement Coordinator in the Restoration and UST Branch at EPA Region 4, will be contacting you to arrange a time for the meeting. He may be reached directly at (404) 562-8684 or by electronic mail at holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov. If you would like to contact Walter Coke directly, you may call Michael Monahan at (205) 745-2628 or by electronic mail at mmonahan@waltercoke.com.

If you have technical questions about the data cited herein, please contact Jim Smith, RCRA Project Manager, at (404) 562- 8502 or Karen Knight, Chief, Corrective Action Section, at (404) 562-8885. Legal inquiries should be directed to Joan Redleaf Durbin, Associate Regional Counsel, at (404) 562-9544. You can also contact me directly at (404) 562-8569.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey T. Pallas
Chief, Restoration and UST Branch
RCRA Division

Enclosures (3)

1. Environmental Sampling results for Riggins Alternative School, Hudson School, Calloway Head Start and Former Carver High School
2. Sampling Maps for Riggins Alternative School, Former Hudson School, Calloway Head Start and Former Carver High School
3. ToxFAQs™ for Arsenic and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

cc: Mr. Chuck Stewart, President and COO, Walter Coke, Inc.
Ms. Sonja Favors, Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management
Metz Duites, Alabama Dept. of Environmental Management
Mr. Bob Strottman, SVP of Construction Management (Former Carver High School)
Mr. Cary W. Neil, President, New Start Neighborhood Revitalizations, LLC (Former Carver High School)
Mr. Ben Moore, Regional Representative, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)
Ms. Barbara Newman, Environmental Health Program Supervisor, Jefferson County Health Department
Mr. Wayne Studyvin, Director of Environmental Health, Jefferson County Health Department

Enclosure 1

Sampling Results for Riggins Alternative School

Sampling Date: July 21, 2009

Comment: In the April/May 2010 timeframe, the EPA collaborated with the School District to take proactive action to provide preliminary corrective action at Riggins School. This included parent/faculty notification (using an EPA-composed Fact Sheet in English and Spanish), posting of precautionary yard signage (playground and drip line area) and erecting a mesh fence around the drip line of the school to prevent access and potential exposure to this area.

Sample Designation and Location: OSW-8	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Sub: B1	8.8 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	10.673 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Front yard	8.5 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	9.985 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: B2	8.5 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	12.913 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P1	8.9 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	3.54 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P2	9.4 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.936 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P3	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.122 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P4	9.6 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.238 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P5	7.3 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.096 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P6	8.1 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.654 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P7	4.9 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.097 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P8	8.4 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.125 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: P9	7.9 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.125 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 1	8.5 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	460.1 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 2	20.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	982.2 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 3	13 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	705.1 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Drip line 4	8.7 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	651.6 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The soil screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.
- Highlighted cells indicate the sampling result was above screening levels.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:

www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Sampling Results for Former Hudson School

Sampling Date: July 23, 2009

Comment: The environmental sampling results (see below table) reflect samples taken at and around the former Hudson School, which was demolished after these samples, were taken and whose property was significantly re-landscaped. A new Hudson School was constructed. Since the locations of the original sampling event were disturbed to such a large degree, EPA and Walter Coke deemed it would be prudent to re-sample the new school property. Walter Coke and its contractors re-sampled the school property in August 2010. As of the date of this letter, preliminary environmental sampling results indicate lower contaminant concentrations. EPA and Walter Coke will release the findings of the re-sampling to the School District after the data is validated.

Sample Designation and Location: OSS-10	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Front yard	15.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	39.3 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Side yard left	14.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	29.07 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BA	17.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.812 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BB	18.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.629 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BC	7.4 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.650 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub:BD	8.3 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.926 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play area-composite	30.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.621 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play Area-Grab	38.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	7.275 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.
- Highlighted cells indicate the sampling result was above screening levels.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Sampling Results for Calloway Head Start School

Sample Date: July 16, 2009

Comment: Due to the results being below short-term soil screening levels, EPA recommends no action be taken at this time at this Birmingham school property (which is reportedly leased to Head Start).

Sample Designation and Location: OSS-4	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Front yard	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.694 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Back yard	17.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.335 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Side yard left	17.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.539 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Side yard right	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.858 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play area 1	8.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.189 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Play area 2	16.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.475 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Sampling Results for Former Carver High School

Sampling Date: July 15, 2009

Comment: EPA was informed that the School District transferred the current property from its ownership to the City of Birmingham. The former Carver High School is closed and has fencing.

Sample Designation and Location: OSS-32	Arsenic Concentration (soil)	Arsenic Screening Levels	BaP TEQ Concentration (soil)	BaP TEQ Screening Levels
Front yard	14.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	6.992 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BA	5.6 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.075 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BB	15.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.890 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BC	15.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.892 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BD	20.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.705 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BE	6.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.055 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BF	16.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.022 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BG	36.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.266 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BH	46.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.216 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BI	12.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	0.607 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BJ	29.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	1.052 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BK	18.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.554 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg
Sub: BL	14.0 mg/kg	39.0 mg/kg	2.039 mg/kg	1.5 mg/kg

Note:

- The screening levels represent the concentration associated with a 1:10,000 (1×10^{-4}) increased cancer risk level.
- Highlighted cells indicate the sampling result was above screening levels.

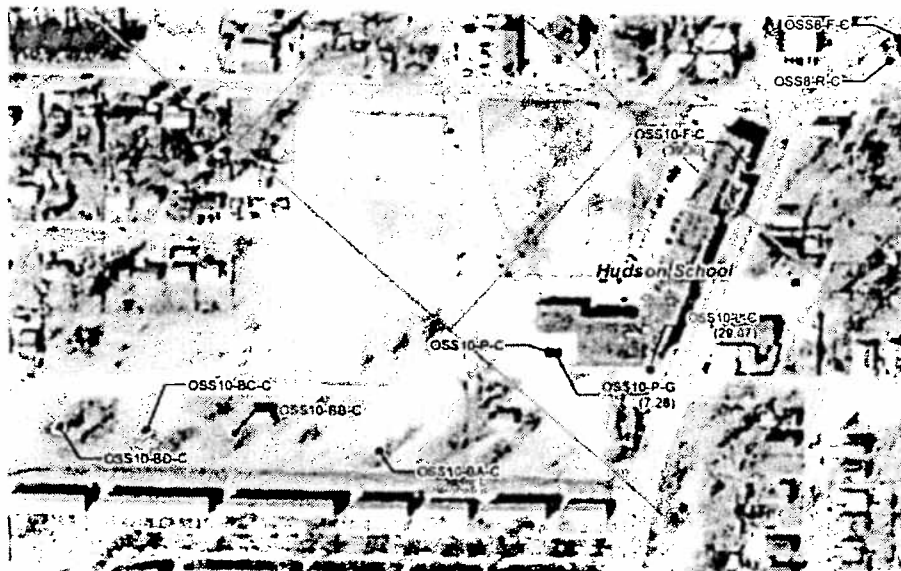
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)

Phone number: 1-888-422-8737

Website address for 2-page Fact Sheets that answers the most frequently asked health questions:
www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html

Enclosure 2

SAMPLING MAPS OF FOUR SCHOOLS



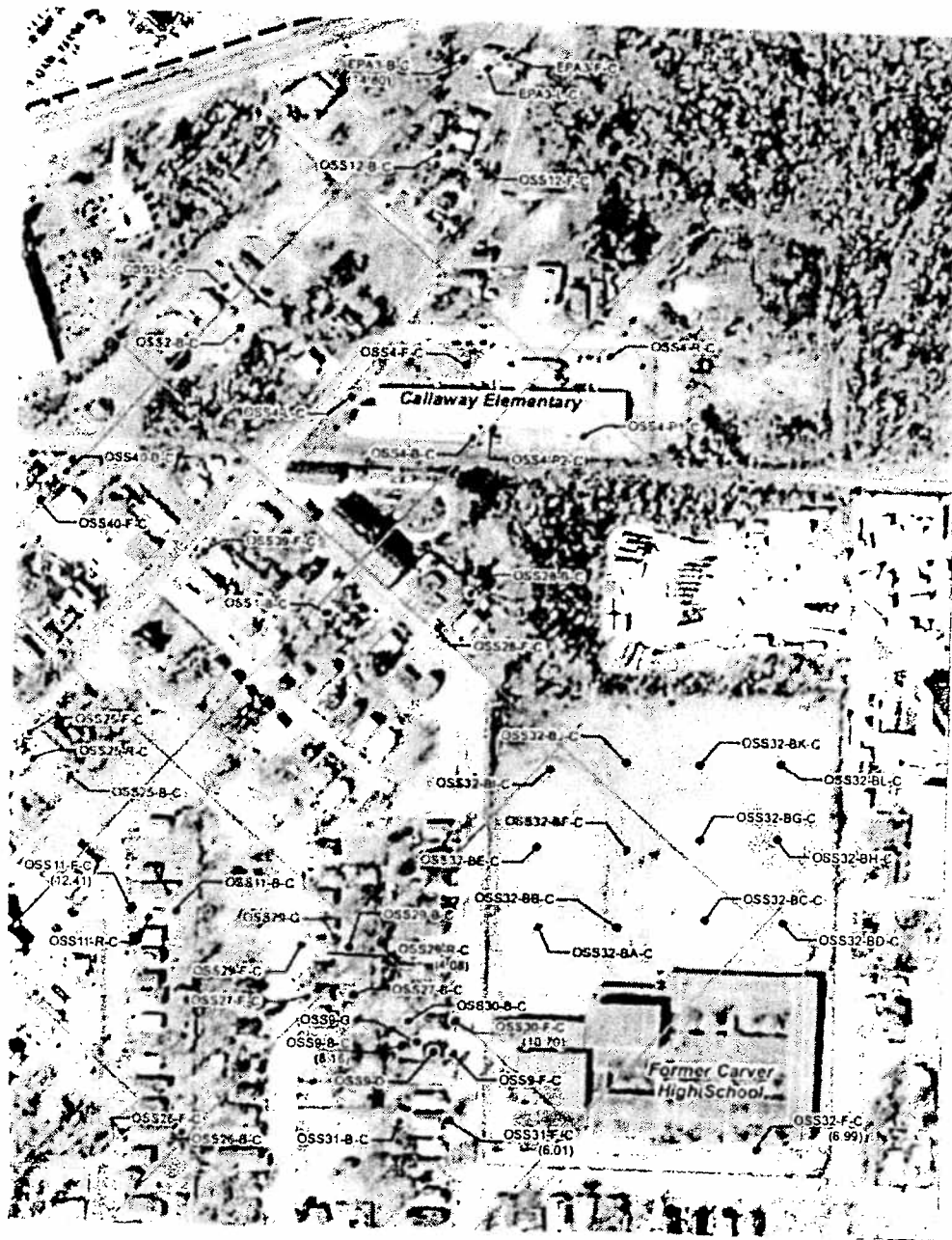
Sampling Locations for Hudson School
Birmingham, Alabama *

* Adapted from Figure 3-5 of Walter Coke, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama report prepared by CH2MHill.



Sampling Locations for Riggins School
Birmingham, Alabama *

* Adapted from Figure 3-7 of Walter Coke, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama report prepared by CH2MHill.

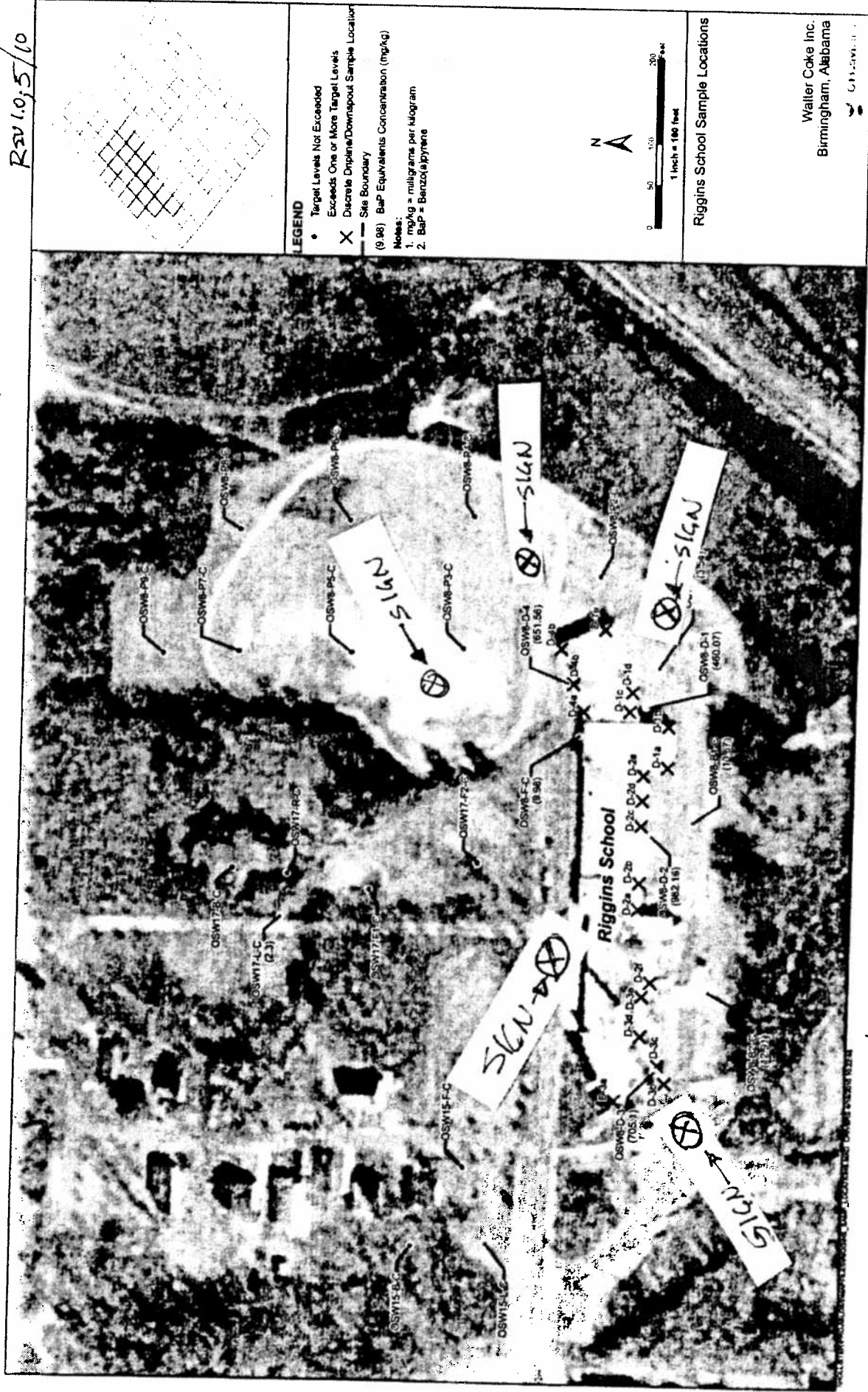


Sampling Locations for Callaway Elementary
and Carver High School
Birmingham, Alabama *

* Adapted from Figure 3-5 of Walter Coke, Inc. Birmingham, Alabama report prepared by CH2MHill.

"KEEP OFF THE GRASS
PROPOSED LOCATIONS OF
(PLEASE DO NOT TRESPASS) SIGNS PER EPA *

Rev 10/5/10



FOR B'HAM CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT USE (BOB WORGAN, DIR S. DRLEW)

* IN ADDITION TO PLASTIC MESH FENCING ALONG DRIP-LINE
- G. H. H. H.

Enclosure 3

ToxFAQs™ for Arsenic and Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

This fact sheet answers the most frequently asked health questions (FAQs) about polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). For more information, call the ATSDR Information Center at 1-888-422-8737. This fact sheet is one in a series of summaries about hazardous substances and their health effects. This information is important because this substance may harm you. The effects of exposure to any hazardous substance depend on the dose, the duration, how you are exposed, personal traits and habits, and whether other chemicals are present.

SUMMARY: Exposure to polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons usually occurs by breathing air contaminated by wild fires or coal tar, or by eating foods that have been grilled. PAHs have been found in at least 600 of the 1,430 National Priorities List sites identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

What are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons?

(Pronounced pŏl'i-sī'klīk ār'ə-măt'īk hī'drə-kar'bənz)

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) are a group of over 100 different chemicals that are formed during the incomplete burning of coal, oil and gas, garbage, or other organic substances like tobacco or charbroiled meat. PAHs are usually found as a mixture containing two or more of these compounds, such as soot.

Some PAHs are manufactured. These pure PAHs usually exist as colorless, white, or pale yellow-green solids. PAHs are found in coal tar, crude oil, creosote, and roofing tar, but a few are used in medicines or to make dyes, plastics, and pesticides.

What happens to PAHs when they enter the environment?

- ☐ PAHs enter the air mostly as releases from volcanoes, forest fires, burning coal, and automobile exhaust.
- ☐ PAHs can occur in air attached to dust particles.
- ☐ Some PAH particles can readily evaporate into the air from soil or surface waters.
- ☐ PAHs can break down by reacting with sunlight and other chemicals in the air, over a period of days to weeks.

- ☐ PAHs enter water through discharges from industrial and wastewater treatment plants.
- ☐ Most PAHs do not dissolve easily in water. They stick to solid particles and settle to the bottoms of lakes or rivers.
- ☐ Microorganisms can break down PAHs in soil or water after a period of weeks to months.
- ☐ In soils, PAHs are most likely to stick tightly to particles; certain PAHs move through soil to contaminate underground water.
- ☐ PAH contents of plants and animals may be much higher than PAH contents of soil or water in which they live.

How might I be exposed to PAHs?

- ☐ Breathing air containing PAHs in the workplace of coking, coal-tar, and asphalt production plants; smoke-houses; and municipal trash incineration facilities.
- ☐ Breathing air containing PAHs from cigarette smoke, wood smoke, vehicle exhausts, asphalt roads, or agricultural burn smoke.
- ☐ Coming in contact with air, water, or soil near hazardous waste sites.
- ☐ Eating grilled or charred meats; contaminated cereals, flour, bread, vegetables, fruits, meats; and processed or pickled foods.
- ☐ Drinking contaminated water or cow's milk.

ToxFAQs Internet address via WWW is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>

- ☐ Nursing infants of mothers living near hazardous waste sites may be exposed to PAHs through their mother's milk.

How can PAHs affect my health?

Mice that were fed high levels of one PAH during pregnancy had difficulty reproducing and so did their offspring. These offspring also had higher rates of birth defects and lower body weights. It is not known whether these effects occur in people.

Animal studies have also shown that PAHs can cause harmful effects on the skin, body fluids, and ability to fight disease after both short- and long-term exposure. But these effects have not been seen in people.

How likely are PAHs to cause cancer?

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has determined that some PAHs may reasonably be expected to be carcinogens.

Some people who have breathed or touched mixtures of PAHs and other chemicals for long periods of time have developed cancer. Some PAHs have caused cancer in laboratory animals when they breathed air containing them (lung cancer), ingested them in food (stomach cancer), or had them applied to their skin (skin cancer).

Is there a medical test to show whether I've been exposed to PAHs?

In the body, PAHs are changed into chemicals that can attach to substances within the body. There are special tests that can detect PAHs attached to these substances in body tissues or blood. However, these tests cannot tell whether any

health effects will occur or find out the extent or source of your exposure to the PAHs. The tests aren't usually available in your doctor's office because special equipment is needed to conduct them.

Has the federal government made recommendations to protect human health?

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set a limit of 0.2 milligrams of PAHs per cubic meter of air (0.2 mg/m³). The OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) for mineral oil-mist that contains PAHs is 5 mg/m³ averaged over an 8-hour exposure period.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends that the average workplace air levels for coal tar products not exceed 0.1 mg/m³ for a 10-hour workday, within a 40-hour workweek. There are other limits for workplace exposure for things that contain PAHs, such as coal, coal tar, and mineral oil.

Glossary

Carcinogen: A substance that can cause cancer.

Ingest: Take food or drink into your body.

References

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 1995. Toxicological profile for polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service.

Where can I get more information? For more information, contact the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Division of Toxicology, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop F-32, Atlanta, GA 30333. Phone: 1-888-422-8737, FAX: 770-488-4178. ToxFAQs Internet address via WWW is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>. ATSDR can tell you where to find occupational and environmental health clinics. Their specialists can recognize, evaluate, and treat illnesses resulting from exposure to hazardous substances. You can also contact your community or state health or environmental quality department if you have any more questions or concerns.



This fact sheet answers the most frequently asked health questions (FAQs) about arsenic. For more information, call the ATSDR Information Center at 1-800-232-4636. This fact sheet is one in a series of summaries about hazardous substances and their health effects. It is important you understand this information because this substance may harm you. The effects of exposure to any hazardous substance depend on the dose, the duration, how you are exposed, personal traits and habits, and whether other chemicals are present.

HIGHLIGHTS: Exposure to higher than average levels of arsenic occur mostly in the workplace, near hazardous waste sites, or in areas with high natural levels. At high levels, inorganic arsenic can cause death. Exposure to lower levels for a long time can cause a discoloration of the skin and the appearance of small corns or warts. Arsenic has been found in at least 1,149 of the 1,684 National Priority List sites identified by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

What is arsenic?

Arsenic is a naturally occurring element widely distributed in the earth's crust. In the environment, arsenic is combined with oxygen, chlorine, and sulfur to form inorganic arsenic compounds. Arsenic in animals and plants combines with carbon and hydrogen to form organic arsenic compounds.

Inorganic arsenic compounds are mainly used to preserve wood. Copper chromated arsenate (CCA) is used to make "pressure-treated" lumber. CCA is no longer used in the U.S. for residential uses; it is still used in industrial applications. Organic arsenic compounds are used as pesticides, primarily on cotton fields and orchards.

What happens to arsenic when it enters the environment?

- ☐ Arsenic occurs naturally in soil and minerals and may enter the air, water, and land from wind-blown dust and may get into water from runoff and leaching.
- ☐ Arsenic cannot be destroyed in the environment. It can only change its form.
- ☐ Rain and snow remove arsenic dust particles from the air.
- ☐ Many common arsenic compounds can dissolve in water. Most of the arsenic in water will ultimately end up in soil or sediment.
- ☐ Fish and shellfish can accumulate arsenic; most of this arsenic is in an organic form called arsenobetaine that is much less harmful.

How might I be exposed to arsenic?

- ☐ Ingesting small amounts present in your food and water or breathing air containing arsenic.
- ☐ Breathing sawdust or burning smoke from wood treated with arsenic.
- ☐ Living in areas with unusually high natural levels of arsenic in rock.
- ☐ Working in a job that involves arsenic production or use, such as copper or lead smelting, wood treating, or pesticide application.

How can arsenic affect my health?

Breathing high levels of inorganic arsenic can give you a sore throat or irritated lungs.

Ingesting very high levels of arsenic can result in death. Exposure to lower levels can cause nausea and vomiting, decreased production of red and white blood cells, abnormal heart rhythm, damage to blood vessels, and a sensation of "pins and needles" in hands and feet.

Ingesting or breathing low levels of inorganic arsenic for a long time can cause a darkening of the skin and the appearance of small "corns" or "warts" on the palms, soles, and torso.

Skin contact with inorganic arsenic may cause redness and swelling.

ToxFAQs™ Internet address is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>

Almost nothing is known regarding health effects of organic arsenic compounds in humans. Studies in animals show that some simple organic arsenic compounds are less toxic than inorganic forms. Ingestion of methyl and dimethyl compounds can cause diarrhea and damage to the kidneys

How likely is arsenic to cause cancer?

Several studies have shown that ingestion of inorganic arsenic can increase the risk of skin cancer and cancer in the liver, bladder, and lungs. Inhalation of inorganic arsenic can cause increased risk of lung cancer. The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the EPA have determined that inorganic arsenic is a known human carcinogen. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has determined that inorganic arsenic is carcinogenic to humans.

How can arsenic affect children?

There is some evidence that long-term exposure to arsenic in children may result in lower IQ scores. There is also some evidence that exposure to arsenic in the womb and early childhood may increase mortality in young adults.

There is some evidence that inhaled or ingested arsenic can injure pregnant women or their unborn babies, although the studies are not definitive. Studies in animals show that large doses of arsenic that cause illness in pregnant females, can also cause low birth weight, fetal malformations, and even fetal death. Arsenic can cross the placenta and has been found in fetal tissues. Arsenic is found at low levels in breast milk.

How can families reduce the risks of exposure to arsenic?

❑ If you use arsenic-treated wood in home projects, you should wear dust masks, gloves, and protective clothing to decrease exposure to sawdust.

❑ If you live in an area with high levels of arsenic in water or soil, you should use cleaner sources of water and limit contact with soil.

❑ If you work in a job that may expose you to arsenic, be aware that you may carry arsenic home on your clothing, skin, hair, or tools. Be sure to shower and change clothes before going home.

Is there a medical test to determine whether I've been exposed to arsenic?

There are tests available to measure arsenic in your blood, urine, hair, and fingernails. The urine test is the most reliable test for arsenic exposure within the last few days. Tests on hair and fingernails can measure exposure to high levels of arsenic over the past 6-12 months. These tests can determine if you have been exposed to above-average levels of arsenic. They cannot predict whether the arsenic levels in your body will affect your health.

Has the federal government made recommendations to protect human health?

The EPA has set limits on the amount of arsenic that industrial sources can release to the environment and has restricted or cancelled many of the uses of arsenic in pesticides. EPA has set a limit of 0.01 parts per million (ppm) for arsenic in drinking water.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set a permissible exposure limit (PEL) of 10 micrograms of arsenic per cubic meter of workplace air ($10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) for 8 hour shifts and 40 hour work weeks.

References

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). 2007. Toxicological Profile for Arsenic (Update). Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Public Health and Human Services, Public Health Service.

Where can I get more information?

For more information, contact the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, Division of Toxicology and Environmental Medicine, 1600 Clifton Road NE, Mailstop F-32, Atlanta, GA 30333. Phone: 1-800-232-4636, FAX: 770-488-4178. ToxFAQs Internet address via WWW is <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html>. ATSDR can tell you where to find occupational and environmental health clinics. Their specialists can recognize, evaluate, and treat illnesses resulting from exposure to hazardous substances. You can also contact your community or state health or environmental quality department if you have any more questions or concerns.





Agencia de Protección Ambiental de Estados Unidos (EPA, por sus siglas en inglés)

HOJA INFORMATIVA Escuela Riggins, Birmingham, Alabama

No. 1

Mayo 2010

Visión General

Como agencia federal, la misión de la EPA es proteger la salud de las personas y el medioambiente. La EPA esta compartiendo un resumen de los resultados de un estudio que se hizo en la escuela Riggins, una escuela pública para estudiantes cursando los grados 6 al 12. Los representantes de la EPA supervisaron un muestreo de suelos realizado por Walter Coke (antes conocido como Sloss Industries) en la escuela Riggins. El propósito de esta hoja informativa es explicar los resultados y las medidas de precaución que se están implementando.



Investigación Ambiental y Resultados

Las actividades de muestreo ambiental se condujeron bajo la autoridad de una orden de cumplimiento de la EPA. El objetivo era evaluar la posibilidad de contaminación en las áreas alrededor de las facilidades de Walter Coke. La escuela Riggins fue seleccionada debido a que se encuentra muy cerca a las pilas de materia prima de carbón y de los altos hornos. Se tomaron muestras de suelos de la superficie y se enviaron al laboratorio para análisis. Los resultados mostraron que existía contaminación cerca de las cunetas, como también en el patio de la escuela. Arsénico y los hidrocarburos policíclicos aromáticos (PAH, por sus siglas en inglés) son los químicos de interés. Por ahora, la EPA sospecha que una combinación de fuentes puede ser responsable de la contaminación en esta escuela, como también lo puedan ser la brea que se encuentra en el techo de la escuela u otras partículas provenientes de la contaminación del aire.

Esta hoja informativa contiene un breve resumen de:

- La investigación y los resultados
- Las actividades que se están llevando a cabo para prevenir la exposición
- Los próximos pasos a seguir
- Información de contactos

Medidas tomadas para prevenir la exposición

La EPA está trabajando para informar a la comunidad sobre los resultados de este estudio. El Distrito Escolar de Birmingham también está tomando medidas para colocar una cerca plástica para mantener a los niños alejados de los suelos contaminados cerca de las cunetas. Además, se están colocando letreros indicando que debe mantenerse alejado de la grama ("Keep Off the Grass") en el área del patio escolar. **Con el fin de proteger la salud y la seguridad de los estudiantes, los niños deberán obedecer las instrucciones de mantenerse alejados de las áreas cercadas y de otras áreas donde se hayan puesto letreros de no traspasar ("Please do not trespass")** Les agradecemos su cooperación mientras juntos implementamos estas medidas preventivas.

Próximos pasos

El Distrito Escolar de Birmingham y la EPA estarán evaluando la forma de limpiar los suelos para alcanzar niveles seguros u otras medidas de remediación que sean necesarias. La EPA estará trabajando en colaboración con el sistema escolar para abordar estos asuntos.

Contactos:

1. **Brian Holtzclaw**; U.S. EPA, Relaciones Comunitarias; (404) 562-8684; holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov
2. **Samuella Drew**; Director de Escuelas/Operaciones, Birmingham City Schools; (205) 231-4913; shdrew@bhamcityschools.org
3. **Bob Morgan**; Director de Proyectos de Inversión; Birmingham City Schools: (205)231-2082